

# SHALL BEAUTY BE RESTRAINED FROM HER DIP IN THE SURF BY BACTERIA AND SLIME THAT ARE POLLUTING WATERS?

## OIL-SOAKED REFUSE DUMPED INTO OCEAN DRIFTS IN TO SHORE

Garbage from the Big Cities Along the Atlantic Coast Imperil the Bathing Throngs at All Eastern Resorts—Wide Demand Made that Congress Pass Law to Protect Health of Bathers as Well as Conserve Shellfish.

By DR. W. H. BALLOU,

Well Known Writer on Scientific Subjects.

NOT so long ago, Miss Anita Stewart, the screen star, partook of a Long Island soft clam bake, in company with a large gathering of cinema people. In exactly twenty days she was one of sixteen persons of the party to be stricken with typhoid fever. The large, luscious looking soft clams she dug out of the shells had fed to fatness on the garbage of New York City, which had been towed to sea on barges and dumped overboard, to be flung later, oil-soaked, along the Atlantic coast from Montauk Point to Cape Hatteras.

Miss Stewart was desperately stricken, but youth and courage finally pulled her through to slow returning health.

The case of Miss Stewart should command attention of every girl who expects to summer at the ocean beaches, to say nothing of men in general.

The wise girl will display her bathing costume solely on the sands, for if she wades or plunges into the water, New York's oil-soaked garbage, which floats down the middle Atlantic coast, will not only ruin her costume, but will require her to wash off the oily filth with gasoline. Not only that, but the soles of the feet are so porous that the disease germs of many types can get entry through them into the system.

### DISEASE GERMS' PREY.

"Men of science have already taken just the deposits from the feet of ocean bathers, analyzed them, and found a vast array of disease germs, endangering the health not only of bathers but of summer colonies along the coast and of the big populations of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, and all riparian municipalities. At the hearing before a large committee of Congress on a preventive bill, the arraignment of New York's oil-soaked garbage was one of the most terrible ever presented.

Dr. James William Marshall, vice president of the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association, said:

"The shore peoples everywhere have held meetings to protest to this body against further dumping at sea of garbage. The interests in the matter are country-wide. A bushel of the stuff taken from our shore and sent to New York was sufficient to convince the garbage authorities of its deadly menace to shore peoples, of which the largest representation is from New York itself. This garbage is believed to be the main cause of infantile paralysis, to say nothing of many other diseases, infections and epidemics you have been told of here."

### GARBAGE A PERIL.

"People come to the shore for recreation and invigoration. When their bathing in the sea is impossible, the recuperative force of the American people is destroyed to a large degree. Not only that, but our sea food and game bird supplies along the shore are destroyed, being made unfit for human consumption by the deadly germs of the garbage can. Our former 600,000 barrels of mackerel for salting alone were reduced to a paltry 43,000 barrels last season," Lewis T. Stevens, of Cape May, N. J., stated.

"We in our seaside resort have been bothered for several seasons with the deposits floating upon our beach strand and coming in contact with thousands of bathers and causing them to have their bathing clothes ruined by the contact. At times it has driven many from our beach, which has thereby lost many visitors while the hotels have suffered a loss of trade."

### A "NATIONAL CALAMITY."

"The reports of forty beach and riparian municipal mayors are in the same strain, alleging loss of bathers' clothes, of home people and visitors. While oil waste from oil burning vessels is attacked equally with garbage, another and more serious indictment is formed. It is shown that when garbage is cast overboard at sea it soon becomes encased in oil waste, so that the dormant disease germs in the garbage have their temperature raised to immediate and continuous breeding.

The combination is hence spoken of as a "national calamity," imperiling the health of vast coast populations and all the visitors who go to the coast in summer. The biologist of the New

Jersey Shellfish Commission and the zoologist of Rutgers College, Dr. Thurlow C. Nelson, in his report to Congress warns:

"Pollution has passed far beyond its former bounds, and in addition to enveloping the whole bathing beach coast has invaded the shellfish areas, which a few years ago were miles beyond any sources of contamination. The whole oyster industry is menaced and slowed down from New England waters down along Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. A study of the condition of our coastal waters shows clearly the approach of a national calamity."

"The wastes which kill the oyster larvae at the same time destroy the biological machine which otherwise would normally take care of the self-purification of our coastal waters. Our streams can no longer take care of the large volumes of sewage, with the results that the banks and coasts are strewn with heaps of putrid matter. During the warm months, these accumulated masses swarm with flies, adding to the dangers of the situation."

BACTERIA INCREASED.

"As the poisonous effects or wastes are pushed forward, bacterial and parasitical contamination is increased. The rapidly increasing populations of the Atlantic seaboard present a serious problem. To protect the health of these and the additional thousands who flock each summer to the resorts on the coast, as well as to maintain the purity of the water of the shellfish-bearing areas, Congress must hasten the passage of legislation which will prevent further pollution of all types, garbage, oil waste and poisons from industries which can be controlled at their source."

Shellfish growing in waters contaminated with human wastes are usually very fat, not as ordinarily supposed to be from eating sewage, but owing to the great number of food organisms which in turn are deriving their nutriment from the products of decomposition of garbage and sewage. In the process of feeding in grossly polluted waters, shellfish may take in typhoid bacilli, thus rendering them dangerous as human food."

"The nitrates and salts essential for plant growth on land, resulting from decomposition of garbage and sewage if distributed on soil, are

lost when allowed to go to sea. If we cannot conserve the coastal fish and shellfish, the nitrates and salts are doubly lost, since there will be no sea food to make up the loss on land. The loss in oysters alone will equal 400,000 dressed oysters."

PURE SEA WATER FAR OFF.

A corporation was recently organized in New York to deal exclusively in sea water, both in quantity for home bathing and for medicinal use in intravenous injections for certain diseases. One of its promoters informed me that, after having scientists make a rather costly survey, the company finds that it can secure no pure salt water closer than thirty miles out to sea from the Atlantic coast. It might be 100 or more miles out from New York or Boston.

He states that unless the bill is passed by Congress to stop municipalities from dumping garbage at sea, and oil-burning vessels from dumping their oil waste, the corporation will have to disband, because of the high cost of securing pure salt water in quantity.

The oil soaked garbage on the Coast Waters and Beaches. Health Commissioner Royal S. Copeland is chairman. The statement was presented by its legal representative, David Neuberger.

"The situation presented by the conditions is well-nigh intolerable, being first of all a menace to health. The menace affects the throat, keeping busy throat specialists along the coast."

ALL RESORTS AFFECTED.

"The situation concerns all resorts. Men have journeyed from as far as California with their families to the Long Island and New Jersey shores, where thousands of millions of dollars have been invested to put up bathing beaches, but where it is now impossible to bathe. It is a great evil, a terrible menace, an inextinguishable menace, affecting the general health and bringing about unnecessary sanitary conditions."

"The condition threatens a sea food famine—the destruction of oysters, clams, lobsters, crabs and edible fish of many species. The sea has heretofore produced food for the world when all land sources of food production more or less

failed. Must this supplemental supply be exterminated? The coast pound fisheries are already well-nigh exterminated."

"When ample food is a question, the health of the whole of the United States is at stake."

Pollution of the beaches causes diseases. If Federal intervention alone cannot stop it, we must utilize the police power of the riparian States."

Typhoid fever from a garbage-fed oyster or clam is caused by the minute trematode worm, or rather larva or young of the worm, named by the parasitologists La. case and Duthiers, Bucephalus haimaeus.

New World parasitologists, however, prefer to put this terrible microscopic worm in the newer New World genus Gasterostomum, because of specific differences between the animal parasites of the oysters of Europe and America.

It seems essential to make the above statement as emphatic as possible, because those who are left of the old school of bacteriologists still persist that the cause of typhoid fever is a little flowerless plant called bacillus typhosus. This bacillus, as parasitologists in numbers have demonstrated, is merely the food of flagellates, or minute animal parasites.

"Even the November issue of the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences tells of methods of breeding this bacillus in mice. It calls the little plant of mice bacillus typhi murium. We will never get anywhere with a cure or even a preventive of the dread typhoid fever so long as any class of medical men persists in regarding the cause as bacteria."

Loeffler long ago found flagella, or animal parasites, in company with bacillus typhosus, and was

Do not rob women. Frequently a victim has ordered the arrest of the man right behind him. But when that man is searched, the stolen wallet has disappeared.

DO NOT ROB WOMEN.

In some cities a pickpocket convicted will receive a sentence of only six months. On this account big bonds are not demanded by the courts, or the prosecuting attorneys. It is in these towns that pickpockets will refund the bondsmen, if they cannot "fix" the victim.

Professional pickpockets do not rob women. But they are said to be an unscrupulous lot when it comes to the old saw that "there is honesty among thieves," etc. It

is said that pickpockets are frequently permitted to operate in some cities because of the information they give the police against second story operators, yeggmen and other types of thieves.

Most of the present day pickpockets are youths, few over thirty years old. They wear flashy clothes, much jewelry and present a rather dapper appearance. It is claimed that most pickpockets are addicted to morphine or heroin, using the drug to give them courage and nerve to operate.

Women are generally robbed by others of their sex, known as "purse dippers." This type of thief not only work their nefarious trade in street cars, but in the department stores and shops. They are mostly adept at opening handbags of shoppers and "lifting" purses from them. They are of a different type than the shoplifters. The latter make it a profession to steal articles, silks, small pieces of valuable bric a brac from department stores and shops.

Before operating, the pickpocket group makes sure a wallet is to be found in the hip pocket of the intended victim. It will watch the intended victim leave a bank, after putting his wallet in his hip pocket, or come from a shop or restaurant

with the bank roll put apparently "safely" away. The "dip" will then get busy, the result being that the odds are with him that he will get the wallet within a short time.

They Shun Washington.

"Few pickpockets come to Washington," declared Inspector Grant. "The courts here will convict them even should their victim fail to appear against them. We have detectives who are skilled in 'making' a pickpocket, they can tell them on sight and if caught here, the dip gets a long term in prison. That's why he keeps away from the Capital, even when the great crowds are here during the inaugurations."

After getting the wallet, the pickpocket will get rid of it as soon as he can extract the money and other valuables that he finds in it. In the case of a scarf pin, he will dig out the stone and throw away the pin.

Yegg Defies Disease.

HERRIN, Ill., March 11.—Jim Sisk, a miner quarantined in his bachelor quarters for smallpox, informed the police that someone entered his room, chloroformed him and stole \$150 in cash and a gun valued at \$25.

Mass. Town Has First Death in Two Years

MONTGOMERY, Mass., March 11.—The first death here since 1920 occurred when Samuel W. Coe died at eighty-two. Montgomery has a population of 200.

Mr. Coe had resided here more than fifty years. Recently he and Mrs. Coe celebrated their fifty-anniversary.

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A TYPHOID worm in a Long Island clam she ate nearly cost Miss Anita Stewart, film star, her life. Fifteen other cinema folk at the clam bake with her were also stricken. Below Miss Stewart's picture is Miss Jean Folley, a typical bathing beauty, sitting beside the sea into which she dare not go. And soon she may quit the beach as well—driven away by germs!



ANITA STEWART

JEAN FOLLEY

Coast affects riparian property worth from \$5,000,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 in New York State and New Jersey alone. A quotation may be made from the report to Congress of the Interstate Committee of Prevention of Pollution of

strongest criminal protective organizations known and which operates out of New York. Every professional pickpocket in the United States is a member of this secret organization. The police, however, have not been able to lay their hands on the heads of the association.

The organization has lawyers in its employ in most of the big cities. As soon as a pickpocket is arrested the lawyer is notified. He arranges for bonds for the "dip" and gets him out on security until arrangements are made for court trials.

Efforts are made to "fix" the victim of the pickpocket. He is offered more money than was stolen from him. He is bribed to go into court and declare his inability to identify the accused. If he will not do this, and insists on prosecution, the lawyer will arrange that the pickpocket forfeit his bonds—that he escape and the bondsmen receive the amount of security lost thereby to the State from the pickpockets' organization.

The pickpockets must contribute monthly to the organization which protects them. They must be the type that are on "the wing," those that go from city to city and steal your wallet at the country fair or

Here is the way they work: No. 1, the stall, will block the intended victim while he is getting on a street car. He will drop a coin and stoop over to pick it up, brushing back the victim. No. 2, the "wire," will be directly behind the victim. As the victim strives to regain his equilibrium No. 2 will

lift his wallet or purse. In a flash the "wire," once in possession of the wallet, will hand it to the "get-away."

Pickpockets work in groups of three. There is the "stall," the "wire," and the "get-away." Each has his particular work, and it is always shrewdly done, so carefully, in fact, that few get caught in the act of actually lifting a wallet or bank roll from a victim's pocket.

WORK IN TRIOS.

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## PURE SEA WATER IS 100 MILES OUT AT ATLANTIC STATIONS

Scientists, Who Were to Provide Salt Water for Medical Experiments, Found None of Reasonable Purity Along the Eastern Coast. Millions of Dollars' Damage Alone Near New York From the Pollution by Refuse Dumping.

mystified, because he had not sufficient microscopic power to identify them. He knew, however, that no bacillus has a flagellum, or swimming organ, and hence no motive power.

During the war, Wright, in the British army, used a prophylactic inoculation of a billion of these bacilli as a preventive against typhoid. Russell, in the American army, used a method of vaccination of a similar number of the bacilli.

Because many soldiers escaped typhoid fever in the trenches and camps, they called their methods a "success." Typhoid generally swept the armies, just the same. Those men who escaped were naturally immune, and escaped in spite of the inoculations. Those men who recovered from attacks, recovered because they had sufficient natural defenses to do so notwithstanding the inoculations, drugs and medicines administered to them.

TYPHOID IN WARTIME.

When the medical profession finds a way to kill this minute animal parasite of typhoid fever in the human system, there will be few or no deaths from it. So long as they treat the cause as "bacilli," the patient will survive or perish, according to his natural defenses or immunity.

The point is that these animal parasite worms, and the bacilli they feed on breed in the garbage dumped out at sea and that our coastal shellfish and ordinary fish are being generally infected with them. All lower orders of animal life seem to be immune from typhoid fever, although they are carriers of the germs imbibed from garbage and sewage.

It is only the higher apes and man who eat polluted fish and shellfish that get the disease. Once the animal parasites get in the system with food they find strongholds for breeding in the blood, etc. They enter the cerebrospinal fluid, causing meningeal symptoms. They emerge into the spleen, Peyer's patches, mesenteric glands and liver. When they infest the sputum, they are thought to be causative of pulmonary involvement. So, count the poor old cow out as the whole source of the white plague.

If the garbage and sewage were spread on the farm lands, instead of on the ocean, it would speedily decompose by the leaching action of ground water on land, and be productive of nitrates and salts essential to all plant growth—instead of generating typhoid fever. Here is a chance for a big corporation to make money with a cheap fertilizer which should cost nothing for overhead except transportation and scattering.

Does the public want salt water bathing this coming summer and more freedom from disease and epidemics? If so, every person should bring all pressure possible to bear on Congress for the immediate passage of the bill to regulate this disposal of garbage, oil waste, and

poisons of manufacturing plants. There is also another bill to call an international conference on the matter, so that in addition to home laws there ultimately will be international regulations.

Big liners, as well as smaller vessels, dump their garbage into the coastal waters and harbors, just as do the riparian municipalities. The whole outfit should be put under drastic regulations, Federal and State, within the three-mile limit, and by international agreement, twenty-five miles beyond the three-mile limit.

GARBAGE CAN MENACE.

The main difference against the whole American public is the garbage can. Don't forget that when the garbage is cast into the sea, by whatever agency, and the oil waste invests it, it becomes a mountainous menace, and don't forget that. Unless this bill or both bills are passed at once, your daughters and you take your lives in your hands, or rather your feet, the instant you step into salt water. But, if you must step in, take a can of gasoline along with which to clean off the filth with its load of disease germs.

Mayor Clarence J. Houseman, of Long Branch, says:

"We have a summer population of 100,000 wanting to bathe. If Congress does not pass this garbage-oil waste bill we will be financially ruined."

Franklin J. Taylor, Brooklyn, of the Waterway League of America, says:

"Jamaica Bay has had thirty species of edible fish and an annual output of oysters valued at \$1,000,000. The board of health has condemned the shellfish because of the pollution of the waters, and destroyed the entire output. If Congress will pass the regulation bill, our water front may again bloom with oysters, and fish be able to enter the bay."

SHELLFISH DESTROYED.

George M. Mott, of the shellfish interests of New Jersey, says:

"We have lost six miles, or 30,000 acres of natural spawning oyster beds. We want Federal protection at once."

Harry C. Rehm, secretary of the Association of North Jersey Shore Municipalities, says:

"We have twenty-three municipalities, containing 10,000,000 people, one-tenth of the entire population of the country. The coast resorts are their playground, but have been practically destroyed by garbage-oil pollution. We want Federal protection at once."

Congressman Schuyler O. Bland of Virginia says:

"The matter is just as vital to the people of Hampton Roads as of the north Atlantic coast because our entire fish industry is threatened with destruction."

Simpson Earle, engineer of the Maryland Conservation Commission, says:

"We have 200,000 acres of oyster beds, with thousands of employees. Our vast shellfish industry is menaced, too. Let us have Federal protection before it is too late."

Charles Wheeler, of Stratford, representative of the Connecticut Oyster Growers Association, says:

"In 1908 we produced 30,000,000 bushels of oysters, sold for \$15,700,000, or 20 per cent of the nation's oyster product. Last summer we produced only 2 per cent of the crop. Our industry is on its last legs, because of the garbage-oil waste menace, and 75 per cent of our spawning beds are deeply coated with garbage-oil and filth, and destroyed. We plead for immediate Federal protection."

I could go on quoting indefinitely. The question is, do you eyes again want to bathe in salt water and have diseaseless oysters and fish on your table? If so, force Congress to act immediately."